



LOCHSIDE ACADEMY PARENT VOICE MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Wednesday 7th October 2020
 Time: 7pm
 Location: Google Meet

Minutes taken by: Joaane Coull (**Secretary**)

Present:	Mhairi Stewart (Chair)	Mr Hendry (Head Teacher)
	Joaane Coull (Secretary)	Joanne Campbell (Deputy Head Teacher) Irene Stove (Deputy Head Teacher)
	Moira Cutler	Rebecca Mann
	Terri Louise Whyte	Pamela Lloyd Fenton
	Chris Wright	Julie Love
	Lynne Robertson	Clare Donald
	Karen Strachan	Pamela Robertson
	Carol Fisher	Lyndsey Eilbeck
	Ash Graham	Oddveig Bakken

Welcome & Apologies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mhairi Stewart welcomed all to the meeting.
---------------------------------	---

Head Teachers Update:	<p><u>COVID</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Following a very busy 10 weeks preparation we opened on 10th August 2020, it has been an incredibly busy but successful term. Everything we have in place is following Scottish Government Covid Guidance on the reopening of schools. ▪ We have a detailed Risk assessment in place. This can be found on our website. ▪ 72 mitigations in place across the school, these include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Doors open 8.35am, different entry points</i> 2. <i>One way system in place, stickers on the floor, at a cost to the school</i> 3. <i>All entrances supervised by SLT</i> 4. <i>No tutor time, no Lockers → Need to reduce movement</i>
------------------------------	---

5. *PPE in place, everywhere*
6. *Work surfaces wiped start of every lesson*
7. *All classroom desks are facing forward*
8. *Enhanced cleaning in place throughout the day*
9. *Staggered start for lunch and S1-S3 / S4-S6; Separate breaks*
10. *Teaching staff keeping 2m distancing*

- Masks – ongoing, this week we spoke to 56 classes about the wearing of masks, generally going very well
- No cases of COVID at Lochside to date, if there is one (e.g.) Oldmachar, Bridge of Don, AGS – Cults → Public Health take over. We have procedures in place to track and trace everyone who has been in close contact and will be told to self isolate for 14 days,
 - ↓
 - Education will be key but do not control decisions
 - ↓
 - Very unlikely that the schools will close

- **Break and Lunchtime**

I know this is a hot topic across the country, but advice is for pupils to be outside where they are as **safe** as they can be. This means cold wet days pupils would be out. We have had to cut our canteen capacity by 50%. I am sorry but pupils will be out in the cold and wet during winter. On terrible days like we had last week past we will put in place our Adverse Weather Arrangement (details on my end of term update). We will use this but only on terrible days as it takes 20 staff to cover this!

- **SQA (summary)**

There will be no Nat 5 exams 2021, there will be alternative assessments, I will share once I know more after the holidays. Higher & Advance Higher (contingency arrangements in place) – exams will happen but start later 13th May (all I know).

SQA study classes will start full time after the break. Details in my end of term letter – 36 offers, both lunchtime and after school. Again, we have put in place a protocol to allow this to happen.

We do hope to start clubs but not yet.

- **Staffing Update**

Staffing levels are incredibly positive, however you will not be surprised to hear that COVID has had an impact on this:

- 4 – Probationer teachers did not arrive*
- 2 – Modern Languages*
- 1 – Maths*
- 1 – Physics*

We did appoint several very strong staff during the summer holidays. Currently we have 2 Physics teachers waiting to start, one on 9th November, one from Leeds soon and a Modern Studies/History teacher from Glasgow after the October break. COVID is delaying the time from appointment to start. A Biology / Chemistry post, we have three candidates.

The biggest challenge has been Modern Languages, we have interviewed 30 plus!! Finally, I did hire a gentleman from the Borders

	<p>during the summer and he was due to start three weeks ago. Unfortunately, he emailed me on the Friday to say he had changed his mind, this is a devastating blow for staff. We have offered a post to a gentleman we interviewed on Monday but still waiting to hear if he is coming. Will not be till January 2021.</p> <p>Can I just finish by thanking the Parent Voice for your support over the last six months. Special mention to the Chair for her parking officer role which was a huge help. The last while has been tough but I would just like to say thanks to my SLT who have been amazing, my staff and all the school community. We are and will be stronger on the other side.</p>
--	--

Bank account update:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mhairi Stewart reported that the new bank account with Santander was now in place with a current balance of £1800. ▪ Thank you to Louise Bennet (Treasurer) for all her hard work in setting up the new account, it has been a long process taking up a lot of Louise's time.
-----------------------------	--

Spare School Uniform:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school has a stock of spare school uniforms for any child who is identified as needing a uniform this is all undertaken confidentially. ▪ Once the COVID restrictions are eased the management of the school uniform cupboard will be assisted by members of Lochside Parent Voice.
------------------------------	--

AOCB:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mhairi Stewart reported on the devastating news that Lynn Eddie who recently gave up her role as Lochside Parent Voice Vice Chair has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Our thoughts are very much with her husband, sons, and family at this extremely sad time. Lynn had been an active member of the Parent Council at Loirston Primary School and Vice Chair at both Kincorth and Lochside Academy. Lynn is current undertaking Mistletoe Therapy, and it was agreed by all meeting attendees that a donation of £200 would be made from Lochside Parent Voice to Lynn's fundraising page. As of 27/10/2020 a donation of £200 has been made.
--------------	---

Date of next meeting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To be confirmed
------------------------------	---

Please do not hesitate to contact Lochside Parent Voice if you have any queries or concerns.
<https://www.facebook.com/Lochsideparentvoice>